

The Forerunner.

C. M. FISHER, Editor and Publisher.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1868.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT,
HORATIO SEYMOUR,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
FRANK P. BLAIR,
OF MISSOURI.

"In the spirit, then, of George Washington, and of the patriots of the Revolution, let us take the steps to inaugurate our Government, to start it once again on its course of greatness and prosperity. May Almighty God give us the wisdom to carry out our purposes, to give every State of the Union the blessings of peace, good will and fraternity.—HORATIO SEYMOUR.

No Hope at Present.

Those who have been indulging in any hope that the Legislature, during its present session, would restore to the people of Tennessee the right of suffrage, will be sadly disappointed. The debate on the Governor's supplementary message, recommending the memorial of Hon. John M. Lea to the respectful consideration of the Legislature, was very bitter and resulted in the adoption of the following resolution, by a vote of 54 to 14:

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That we don't think this the proper time to take into consideration the question of the elective franchise.

The proper time will never arrive until they find that popular sentiment is too strong to be resisted. That day is not far distant; until then let us be patient and prudent.

Almost a Panic.

A general distrust and alarm is being occasioned by the revolutionary and fanatical movements of the Radicals. Especially is this the case in the North. The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says that the inflammatory tone of the speeches in Congress with reference to the Southern government and the Southern electoral vote is causing a very uncomfortable feeling in business circles, increasing as it does the prevailing distrust of the future. Great regret is also expressed that Congress, instead of taking a recess merely, did not adjourn, as usual, till December. To reassemble right on the eve of an exciting Presidential election, Republicans, as well as Democrats, apprehend will be but to foment past agitations.

In the same connection, the Boston Post, of a late date, says that the feeling of apprehension there is rapidly becoming intensified, and the popular impression is that the country is approaching a more serious crisis than even the war of the rebellion. The oldest and bravest men speak out their fears. One of the most distinguished Generals of the Federal army, who is not now in political life, although lately sympathizing with the Republican party, is satisfied of the fixed determination of his late political associates to overthrow the Government and seize the Executive power.

On the day that Brownlow's message was delivered to the Legislature, Tennessee bonds sold in New York at 68 for the old and 66½ for the new. So soon as the import of the message was known, our bonds fell as low as 60½, which is equal to 57½ if the July interest were paid. There is no confidence felt in business circles anywhere, and will not be, until in November the party which has ruled and nearly ruined our country shall be put out of power forever.

Large Meeting in Wilson.

The Herald and Register, (which, by the way, came to hand last week after a prolonged absence,) contains the proceedings of a large Democratic meeting held at Lebanon a few days ago, at which patriotic speeches were made, and good, sensible resolutions passed. The people of Wilson county promise that if the militia are not called out they will use their best endeavors for the preservation of peace and good order within their limits. The same promise has been made by the best citizens of other counties. Ought not the voice of the people, so solemnly appealing against the introduction of firebrands into their midst to be regarded? We yet hope it may be.

Demosthenes Grant.

The star orator of the Radical party and General of the army made a speech in St. Louis on the night of the 6th instant, in response to a serenade. It was longer than his efforts in that line usually are, but fully sustained his hitherto great reputation. We do not believe, however, that there will be any objection on the part of the American people to his fulfilling his promise of making St. Louis his home at any time he may feel disposed. Here is the speech, reported in full:

"Gentlemen and fellow-citizens, I can scarcely find words enough to thank you for this very hearty and warm reception. It is especially gratifying to me to meet so many friends in St. Louis—a place which has arisen since I have been a man grown, and where I intend to become a resident at some future day. Thanking you again, I will bid you good night."

One report says that this eloquent address was followed by hearty cheers for Seymour and Blair, during which the hero beat a hasty retreat.

Relieved.

The Radicals are temporarily relieved on one point at least. They have been expressing great uneasiness lest the saintly relict of the Government should undertake to sell her old clothes in Europe and bring disgrace on "the best government the world ever saw." But she was taken sick, and Mr. Reverdy Johnson, no doubt to his entire satisfaction, left her behind. The poor woman seems to have had no luck since the abrupt dissolution of her co-partnership with the "late lamented."

Bishop Wightman.

The Cokesbury District Meeting, (M. E. South,) recently closed its session at Edgefield Court House, South Carolina. The following, from the Advertiser, will be read with interest by Bishop Wightman's many friends in this section. The closing tribute to his piety, learning and eloquence is very pretty and most richly merited:

On Friday, Bishop Wightman arrived in our midst from Charleston. Bishop Wightman is a son of South Carolina; one, of whom she is, and has long been, duly proud. He had not visited Edgefield for more than thirty years; and, though he has been fighting the good fight for so many long summers and winters, still he looks as if he had scarcely passed the mid-summer of life. During his stay, which lasted until Monday morning, he preached on two occasions; in the Methodist Church on Friday night, and in the Baptist Church on Sunday morning. At the conclusion of his discourse on Sunday morning, Bishop Wightman, assisted by the Presiding Elder and two or three Clergymen, ordained, as Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, our esteemed fellow-citizen, Rev. J. Wesley Barr; a solemn rite, which was performed, we know, amid the heart-felt prayers and hopes of our whole community for him upon whom authority was being conferred. On both occasions such crowds were in attendance as failed to be seated in either Church. Nor were these crowds of earnest and eager listeners disappointed. Bishop Wightman, with his learning, his piety, his earnestness, his force, his full and finely modulated voice and brilliant as well as solid elocutionary powers, is in his zenith. Who goes to hear him, will come away delighted, edified, awakened. To hear him is one of those things of beauty which shall be a joy forever.

Our Electoral Ticket.

The Convention which met at Nashville on the 9th of June, nominated Hon. Emerson Etheridge and Hon. John Baxter, as Electors for the State at large. The latter gentleman declining the position, for reasons which he partially stated, nominated in his own stead, Hon. Geo. W. Jones, of Lincoln. The nomination was ratified by acclamation, but Mr. Jones, in a letter of some length, declines to undertake the canvass.

The Press and Herald suggests that Colonel Baxter be pressed into service, *volens volens*.

Elections to Come Off.

Prior to the Presidential election, State elections will be held in eleven States as follows:

Vermont on the first of September; in California on the 2d, in Maine on the 14th, in Nebraska on the 6th of October; in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, and Iowa, on the 13th; and in West Virginia on the 22d.

The 3d of November, the day of the Presidential election is also the day for holding State elections in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, and Nevada.

Alabama.

In the Alabama Legislature on the 7th the House, by a vote of 73 to 43, passed the Senate bill removing disabilities from persons not allowed to vote by the State Constitution.

In the Senate a bill was passed, by 14 to 13, which neutralizes this by taking away from the people the right to vote for Presidential electors, and giving it to the Legislature. It was sent to the House immediately, where it was made the special order for the next day at ten o'clock.

On the next day the bill was passed, the Speaker and prominent members protesting against it as anti-republican in spirit and effect. This will secure the vote of the State for Grant, of course.

What a glorious land of liberty this is to be sure, where a dozen or two niggers and scallwags can do as they please with the rights of the people of a whole State! Will it be so after the November elections? We cannot believe it.

Fraud.

The way political affairs are managed now, it doesn't make any difference how much fraud is committed, so it is on the right side. A New Orleans dispatch of the 7th instant says:

Two more Democratic members of the House have been unseated, and their opponents seated. The seats of these ousted members were originally contested on the ground of ineligibility, but that ground being abandoned, fraud was substituted. Among the published evidence in the case are two affidavits proving that the Radical contestants committed more fraud than was charged against the Democrats. The Radicals were seated by 43 to 25.

Torch and Turpentine.

From the Union and Dispatch.]

The following facts came into our possession yesterday, through a source so reliable that we cannot withhold it from the public. Taken in connection with the well-known fact that hordes of negroes have been drilling nightly in various suburbs of the town, it assumes a shape and importance not only startling, but such as demands immediate action on the part of those who are charged with the protection of the city and its people.

A person well known in this community for his extreme opinions, and his proclivity to express them, a Radical without reproach as such, living on Market street between Church and the Square, has declared repeatedly that there are organizations already perfected, for the sole and special purpose of destroying the towns of Franklin, Columbia, Pulaski, Murfreesboro and Nashville, whenever the slightest occasion presents itself, or whenever a collision of any kind shall occur in either of the places named. Signals have been agreed upon and lines of communication established. This organization is now measurably complete, and is progressing daily. This person states that he is engaged in this organization, and that when it enters upon the execution of its purposes, that it will spare neither age, sex nor condition—that the houses of all Rebels shall be burned, that women shall be ravished and their children tossed into the flames.

From other sources we are creditably informed that negroes now in the employ of the corporation have prepared turpentine balls and other combustibles to destroy the city whenever the signal is given, and that these materials are now stored in a house occupied by the city and used for public purposes.

We further learn that these organizations are led and controlled by five white men, whose names are in our possession, some of them now occupying official positions of importance in the city government.

We have purposely refrained from mentioning any names, for the reason that we think it is due that the matter should be immediately brought before the appropriate authorities, in such manner as shall bring about an investigation. It is not the purpose of this oppressed community to aid in bringing on a war, but the contrary. The facts above stated, however, have come to us in such shape and upon such authority as cannot be disregarded. We call upon the Mayor of the city, whose duty is to protect the people, to take cognizance of this matter. We are prepared to furnish him with the names of witnesses. If he refuses to act we shall call upon the citizens to organize for their own defense against this diabolical plan of destruction and outrage, and be ready to sweep from the community all who are engaged in this atrocious and savage villainy.

Unless prompt action is taken by the lawful authorities, we shall consider them as the allies of this hellish conspiracy, and appeal to the people to resort to the only remedy, self-protection, left to them in the premises.

James R. Hood, who was the Brownlow candidate for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the first Legislature after the "reconstruction" of Tennessee, but was defeated, and subsequently became a Conservative, has turned up in Georgia a very decided Radical.

Items of Interest.

A Louisville dispatch of the 8th says the Democratic majority in Kentucky will reach ninety thousand.

A Boston sculptor is working at the bust of Anna Dickinson, so says an exchange. The Ku Klux ought to get after that fellow.

Grant will be absent till the middle of September, and will probably accompany the Indian Peace Commission, which Sherman has summoned together, westward.

A State Democratic and Conservative convention is called in North Carolina, to meet in Raleigh on the 13th of August.

The total receipts by the United States Government from all sources, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868, were \$406,300,000.

Reports from the cotton crop of Middle Georgia, show that the plant is very small but healthy. Unless it grows rapidly there will not one half of what was made last season be realized.

The circulation of Ben. Wood's paper, the Daily News, a penny sheet, is now over 100,000 daily. It beats the Herald and Tribune both!

General Canby issued an order on the 6th inst., officially relinquishing the command of the second military district.

The debt statement shows an increase since the first of June of \$13,280,000.

The debt bearing coin interest is \$2,088,250,000; bearing currency interest, \$84,500,000. Matured, but not presented, \$18,000,000, including \$256,000 of the Texas indemnity bonds.

It is stated that the Secretary of War, by order of the President, will issue a circular order covering the entire ground of State Governors' requiring government troops, and this will dispose of all such requests as that of Governor Warmouth.

The colored Conservatives of Montgomery, Alabama, had a grand mass meeting in that city on the 31st of July. It was very largely attended, and several speeches were made. They ratified the nomination of Seymour and Blair.

The Kingston East Tennesseean understands that the surveying party of the North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky Railroad, are making but slow progress, owing to the continuous rains. They are, however, within a few miles of Kingston. From one of the Engineers who was in town a few days ago, the editor learns that the route passed over so far proves to be very rough. It is estimated that the building of the road will cost about \$35,000 per mile.

We learn that on Monday last several pieces of rocks, the largest of which it is estimated will weigh twelve tons, broke loose from the side of Lookout Mountain, near Peep's Springs, Walker county, Ga., and, rushing down, struck the dwelling of Mr. George Acrofts, instantly killing Mrs. Acrofts and an infant child. Three other children were also injured, but not fatally.

[Chattanooga Union, August 7.]

Edward Begg, formerly of Tennessee, disappeared from his hotel in Philadelphia some weeks ago, and his friends fear he has been murdered.

In a recent thunder storm in England, a soldier was struck by lightning and made blind, and a woman who had been stone blind for eight years was as suddenly restored to sight.

John D. Thomason, Chairman of the Ohio State Democratic Committee, writes the Democratic resident committee at Washington, that Ohio is quite sure for Seymour and Blair, and that the Democrats are preparing to make a vigorous canvass.

The Charleston News says it seems to be a peculiarity of the South Carolina Radicals, both foreign and native born, to vow that they are Democrats as soon as they are elected to office by the suffrage of their colored friends. Judge Moses, the renegade Carolinian, who was the other day elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, declares that he has no sympathy with Radicalism. Hoge, the Ohio carpet-bagger, who has been elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, is now said to be a thorough-going Democrat.

Norfolk has a musical prodigy in the shape of a musical baby two and a half years old. The child is blind, but displays a rare musical talent—his execution on the piano being nearly faultless. His little fingers are too small to grasp a full octave, and he frequently uses his elbows to strike the keys beyond the reach of his fingers, but even with this disadvantage, he seldom strikes a false note.

General Frank Woolford, the most brilliant and dashing cavalry officer in the federal Western army—bearing upon his person the marks of nearly a dozen wounds received in the late war—has taken the stump in Kentucky for Seymour and Blair. It is only the sutlers, the horseholders, the officers' boot-blacks, of the federal army, that are now waging war upon the unarmed people of the South.

A dispatch in the New York Tribune of the 10th instant says that Governor Smith, of Alabama, will probably veto the bill empowering the Legislature to choose Presidential electors.

From the La Crosse Democrat.]

Democratic Newspapers.

It is the duty of Democrats in the country to support their county Democratic papers. We ask them to do this first; to stand by, to uphold, sustain and encourage their local Democratic organs, rather than to support us. If able to take but one Democratic paper, let that be the best one published in your county. If able to take other papers, give preference to those most earnest in defence of Democracy—most earnest to attack Republicanism—most determined in behalf of the People, and for the protection of their earnings.

It is the duty of Democrats to support Democratic papers—those papers that speak out openly, boldly, persistently, at all times, for the right. And it is not the duty of Democrats to pay their money to support those wishy-washy, skim-milk, timid, half-and-half, no-account papers, that are afraid to condemn Republicanism, or defend the most earnest supporters of Democracy. Such papers are of no benefit to the party, but rather a curse. If they were starved out, and the support their editors beg or sponge given to bold, true, fearless, determined men, the heaven of pluck would leave the entire loaf; each locality would strive to excel in earnestness, the rotten, cowardly, drawbacks would be wiped out; none but men of vigor would be allowed to speak authoritatively, and all over the land there would be a firmer adherence to Democratic principles and the party would be irresistible. Support your local papers if they are bold, vigorous, and decided. Follow not the bugle that gives uncertain sounds. If your local editor will not make his paper what it should be, earnestly Democratic, refuse to take that paper, for it will do you more harm than good. If he pretends to be a Democrat, and is not, starve him out, support a better and braver man, and let him seek other employment more in consonance with his feelings and capacity.

The hoop question, like many others, has two sides to it. The ladies take the inside, of course.

The Heat in New York.

The second week in July, 1868, was the hottest ever known in New York, the thermometer for several days in succession reaching from 95 degrees to 105 degrees in the shade. During the week ending July 17 there were over 300 deaths in the city from sunstroke! Besides this great loss of human life, which one day in the city reached 153, horses on stage and street-car lines died by the scores! We never knew such intolerable heat. There seemed to be no air, but a dead, sultry, lifeless heat. The sun poured down its rays on wall and pavement; the stone walks almost blistered feet, and men actually panted like dogs, so affected were they by the heat.

Besides the deaths, there were five times that number of cases of sickness and prostration from heat. Men, women, and children fell lifeless on the streets. We saw at the dead-house (Morgue) one afternoon forty-eight dead bodies, a portion of the victims of one day's heat. Men left home in the morning—did not return at night; they were sought for, and found at the Morgue!

One case is peculiarly heart-rending. A little girl on sixth avenue fell to the sidewalk overcome with heat. A laboring man passing helped carry her to a drug store, and then started to find the girl's parents. When near Union square, he fell exhausted, and died in an hour. His body was taken to the Morgue. Not returning to his home at night, search was made the next day by his brother who found and recognized his body, and hastening home to inform the family, he, too, fell senseless, and died in thirty minutes after finding the brother. Each left a family.

Men could not work. Not an hour from ten till four in the afternoon but dead or dying horses could be found in five minutes' walk in any part of the city. One railroad company lost thirty-seven horses in one afternoon! The poor stage, car and dray horses suffered the worst. Drivers hardly urged their horses beyond a walk, and on the street-car lines changed every few blocks.

Soda-water stands were in demand, while palm-leaf fans were sold faster than ever before in one season. The heat of the country is bad enough, but nothing in comparison to the suffocation of the city, where reflecting walls beat back with interest heat upon heat, till the people suffered beyond measure. Never in the history of New York has there been so terrible a heated term—such an enormous mortality list—such a number of persons prostrated who did not die. We hope never to see another season of like unendurable heat, and likely never shall.

[La Crosse Democrat.]

Some friendships are not born to die. One heart or the other will often remain true to its pledges, worshipping, though silently, at its wonted shrine. Estrangements, not traceable to human design, may seem complete; the demon shander may too surely have accomplished half his work, but the other half lies beyond the power of falsehood or of fate. What a thought it is that in the bright light of eternity nothing can be hid!